

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Kubota (U.S. Patent No. 6,168,851) is respectfully traversed. Contrary to the assertions in the rejection, Kubota does not teach Rz in the range of 40μ to 100μ and does not teach Rz in the range of 55μ to 70μ .

Rz referred to in Applicant's specification and claims is defined in the sentence bridging pages 5-6 of the specification and in the second paragraph on page 6.

Rz is not referred to in column 8 of Kubota. The average peak-to-peak spacing of the streaks referred to in column 8 of Kubota are not values for Rz.

Rz is mentioned in column 13, line 40 of the reference, but the value given there is not a value required by Applicant's claims.

The streaks disclosed by Kubota are intended to provide bubble escape passages to minimize the entrainment of bubbles (column 8, lines 39-40). The contact surface roughness required by Applicant's invention serves entirely different purposes, e.g., providing low adherence of disks

to each other and to molding tool recesses. See, e.g., Applicant's specification, the paragraph bridging pages 1-2, and the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION on pages 2-3. The peak-to-peak spacing of the streaks disclosed by Kubota has no relevance to Applicant's invention.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-4 should be allowed.

Non-elected Claims 5 and 6 may be cancelled in order to place this application in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (A-10035) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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